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FM AMEMBASSY ROME
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5574
INFO RUCNMEM/EU MEMBER STATES COLLECTIVE PRIORITY
RUEHFL/AMCONSUL FLORENCE PRIORITY 1629
RUEHMIL/AMCONSUL MILAN PRIORITY 7494
RUEHNP/AMCONSUL NAPLES PRIORITY 1729
RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY 0626

C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 002234

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E.O. 12958: DECL: 08/08/2016

TAGS: EAID PREF SMIG UNGA UNGA IT

SUBJECT: ITALY OK WITH INFORMAL UN MIGRATION DIALOGUE

REF: STATE 122513

Classified By: Acting Political Minister-Counselor E. Candace Putnam for reasons 1.4 (b) and (d).

(C) Poloff delivered reftel points to Gabriella Biondi, Acting MFA Office Director for UN Affairs, July 31, and Giovanni Ceruti, MFA Office Director for Migration and Asylum Policy, August 4. Poloff noted U.S. concerns with discussing migration at a global level, and our opposition to a UN forum. Ceruti noted that Italy was not in favor of creating a UN body to deal with migration issues and shared U.S. concerns about funding. However, he said Italy thought an informal dialogue, somehow linked back to the Global Migration Group, could be useful. While Italy would stress that dialogue should be informal, Ceruti thought it would be difficult to avoid a more formal discussion. Minister for Social Welfare Paolo Ferrero will represent Italy at the HLD. Participation from the MFA has not yet been determined.

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